

During the presentation, CM Felder would like EPA to address the following questions he has received from his constituents in District 7;

How and When was the contamination discovered at Lane Plating?

In 2015 TCEQ did an investigation of the Lane Plating facility after it had ceased operations and closed. In Dec 2015 Lane Plating filed for bankruptcy and TCEQ did a limited removal action. In January 2016 TCEQ referred the site to the EPA. EPA conducted a limited cleanup at the site in October and November of 2016 and removed 188,000 pounds of waste material. A site investigation resulted in the site being listed on the NPL (Superfund site list) in May 2018.

- CM Felder is requesting from EPA to collect samples and analyze the soil and groundwater in and around Joppa Preserve; he also wants the EPA to perform medical testing on citizens who live in Joppa Preserve.

We are currently developing a sampling plan for the site. The intent of this sampling is to locate any area where contamination has migrated from the site and to determine the type of contamination. We will look at soil, surface water runoff, and groundwater. If we find evidence that contamination from the Lane Plating site has migrated to the Joppa area we will investigate this.

The EPA does not conduct epidemiological studies and we do not perform medical testing. The state and county health departments may conduct this type of testing. EPA will work with these agencies if a study is conducted.

- If residential properties in Joppa Preserve are impacted by releases from Lane Plating Works, are their funds from EPA to either help relocate, purchase, or remediate these properties?

At this time, we have no evidence that the residential properties in the near the Joppa Preserve were impacted by contamination from the Lane Plating site. If contamination is found, we will evaluate the risk to residents. If the risk is unacceptably high, the EPA will act to reduce the risk to residents impacted by the site. This action usually involves removing contaminated material. In extreme cases the EPA will relocate people, but that is highly unlikely in this situation.

- Is there or will there be funds to help cover medical costs for Joppa preserve citizens who may be impacted by the releases at Lane Plating?

The EPA is working to reduce the future risk for citizens living near superfund sites, but we cannot address exposure that occurred in the past. The EPA cannot cover medical cost. This is outside of the role established for the EPA by laws and regulations.